

For Immediate Release

May, 25, 2004

**FRANKLIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
TO BRING NEW JOBS TO CENTRAL OHIO**

Columbus, OH – At this morning's General Session, the Franklin County Commissioners executed tax abatement and job sourcing agreements with the firm Bacou-Dalloz Americas, Inc. that will enable the company to lease a newly constructed distribution facility located at 3325 Lewis Center Way in Grove City.

Commenting on this morning's action, Commission Board President Arlene Shoemaker said, "This is another great example of how our county enterprise zones can act as a magnet to draw new companies and business expansions to Franklin County. This tax abatement agreement will result in the creation of 95 new jobs and generate tax revenues through an anticipated annual payroll of three million dollars."

Commissioner Dewey Stokes added that, "The average wage paid at this facility is expected to be \$15.78 per hour, plus benefits. Franklin County residents in need of employment will be referred to that company through the job placement program run by our Department of Job and Family Services."

Commissioner Mary Jo Kilroy explained that, "This agreement will also have a positive impact for the South-Western City School District. With the tax abatement in place, the school district will be receiving \$327,848 additional dollars in personal property taxes and income sharing payments from Grove City, making the South-Western City School District more than whole."

This agreement marks the first project to take advantage of the tax abatements available to businesses locating in the newly created Grove City/Urbancrest Enterprise Zone. Created by the Board of Commissioners, that enterprise zone was certified by the state in February of 2004.

The Bacou-Dalloz Group is the world leader in the design, manufacturing and sale of personal protective equipment. The company employs about 6,700 people worldwide and operates 48 production facilities. Bacou-Dalloz's product lines provide head-to-toe protection through three strategic business segments: head protection (eye, hearing and respiratory), body protection (gloves, clothes and shoes) and fall protection. Bacou-Dalloz offers a full product range aimed at the manufacturing, construction, telecommunications, medical, public services and other sectors. Its products are available from its distributor partners worldwide.

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